

NOTES ON THE GENUS PALORUS (TENEBRIONIDAE)

by Edward A. Chapin
 Curator of Insects
 U. S. National Museum
 Washington, D.C.

The genus Palorus is represented in North America by two introduced species, both of which are of some importance as pests in stored grain. One of these is listed erroneously in the Leng Catalog, 1st Supplement (1927) as a synonym of a third species, P. depressus (F.), which apparently does not occur in this country.

G. C. Champion in 1896 (Ent. Mo. Mag., Vol. 32, p. 29), in a paper dealing with this genus, pointed out that Hypophloeus depressus F. is a true Palorus living under bark in the forests of Europe and not known to attack grain. He further stated that Nitidula melinus Herbst is a species of Hypophloeus and not a synonym of P. depressus (F.).

Stimulated by Champion's paper, F. H. Chittenden in the same year (Ent. News, Vol. 8, p. 138) made a study of the collections of the U. S. National Museum and the U. S. Department of Agriculture and came to the conclusion that the two species occurring in this country are P. ratzeburgi (Wism.) and P. subdepressus (Woll.) instead of P. depressus (F.) or P. melinus (Hbst.) as previously determined.

A. Fleischer (Wien Ent. Zeit., Vol. 19, pp. 236-237, 1900) reviewed the species of Palorus and separated P. subdepressus (Woll.) as the type of the new subgenus Circomus. Our species should stand as follows:

Palorus (Palorus) ratzeburgi (Wism.) 48-77

Palorus (Circomus) subdepressus (Woll.) 64-499

Syn. Palorus melinus auct. not Herbst 1784-37

Palorus depressus auct. not Fabricius 1790-223

IMPORTANT ADVANCES IN ZOOLOGICAL NOMENCLATURE ACHIEVED AT
 THE THIRTEENTH INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF ZOOLOGY

Francis Hemming
 Secretary to the Commission

During the Thirteenth International Congress of Zoology, which closed at Paris on Tuesday, 27th July, 1948, the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature, holding its first meeting since the close of the war, put forward a comprehensive program for the reform and development of zoological nomenclature. All the thirteen meetings held by the Commission were open to all the members of the Congress who were thus enabled to take an active part in the discussion of the proposals put forward by the Commission. As a result it was possible not only to obtain decisions on a much larger number of questions than would otherwise have been practicable